

# Teacher December Newsletter

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Community service can provide a rich educational experience for your students that will not only increase engagement with curriculum, but will also develop social responsibility and citizenship skills. It positively impacts students' academic learning; improves students' ability to apply what they have learned in the real world; provides greater interpersonal development, personal efficacy, and intercultural understanding; results in improved social responsibility and citizenship skills; and connects students and community members to encourage learning and career opportunities.

From tutoring younger students to helping feed needy families, there are many ways teachers can encourage students to take part in community service projects. As you think about encouraging your students and parents to get involved in serving the community, consider the following questions.

- What community service opportunities are available for my students?
- What community service opportunities can parents and children do together?
- What learning opportunities are available through community service?

To learn more about how you can incorporate community service learning in the classroom, visit Education World's website: [http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_special/community\\_service.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_special/community_service.shtml).

## Health and Safety

One area of concern for parents and teachers is the safety of toys and games. Encourage students and parents to select games and toys that are both safe and age appropriate. Consider the following questions:

- What is the best way to communicate with my students' parents about toy and gift safety?
- What resources can I share with parents about making safe toy and gift purchases?

To learn more, check out SafeKids.org's website, which includes toy safety tips: [http://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/documents/toy\\_safety\\_tips.pdf](http://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/documents/toy_safety_tips.pdf).



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